



NASIG

THE

NASIG

NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the North American Serials Interest Group

Vol. 1, no. 1

January 1986

NASIG - A STATUS REPORT

The concept of NASIG was formulated about eighteen months ago at the American Library Association's Conference in Dallas. Here an idea expressed in a RTSD Serials Section meeting was broadened by Becky Lenzini (F. W. Faxon Co.) and John Riddick (Central Michigan University) to include diverse representation of the serials information chain. Thus was formed the NASIG Study Group consisting of publishers, vendors, educators, binders, bibliographic utilities, and libraries. The NASIG Study Group, meeting in Washington, D.C., asked Becky and John to market the concept of NASIG to determine its level of acceptance which was done via a NASIG Survey of Interest. Its positive results, combined with a well-attended and enthusiastic general information meeting held at the ALA Conference in Chicago (July 1985), mandated the group to proceed.

Following the Chicago meeting, a Site-Selection Committee consisting of John Riddick, Tina Feick (Boley International) and Lenore Wilkas (University of Pennsylvania) was formed to find a suitable location for NASIG's Inaugural Conference in June 1986. The site chosen was Bryn Mawr College, which is described by Jane McGarry later in this newsletter. Subsequently a call for papers treating any aspect of serials administration (acquisitions, cataloging, automation, binding, union listing, budgeting, etc.) with a view toward the relationships between the various constituencies of NASIG (where appropriate) was issued. This aspect of the conference is being directed by Leigh Chatterton (Boston College) and Mary Elizabeth Clack (Harvard College).

The important step of dues collection to allow the publication of NASIG's

newsletter and future mailings has been met with an excellent response. Until the conference at Bryn Mawr, when a constitution and set of by-laws will be established, expenditures will be authorized by a majority vote of an ad hoc Executive Council. This Executive Council, created by the Co-Chairpersons to provide some temporary structure and organization until a constitution is established and elections held, presently consists of:

John F. Riddick (Central Michigan University)
Rebecca T. Lenzini (F. W. Faxon Company)
Tina Feick, Vice-Chairperson (Boley International)
Susan Davis, Treasurer (SUNY, Buffalo)
Lenore Wilkas, Newsletter Editor (University of Pennsylvania)
Marilyn Gonsiewski, Secretary (California Polytechnical State University, San Luis Obispo)

The Executive Council will be meeting in Chicago at the ALA Mid-Winter Meeting this month and it will be happy to respond to any current concerns.

The initial momentum of NASIG has been strong but much still needs to be done and discussed. NASIG would like to ask its membership for their thoughts and ideas about the following concerns:

1. Expanding the organization's leadership throughout all constituencies, giving NASIG greater depth, thus assuring continuity.
2. Soliciting greater membership representation from the commercial constituencies, particularly from publishers.
3. Working with and assuring various national professional organizations that NASIG is a complementing, not competing, organization.
4. Stabilizing NASIG's publication plan through sufficient newsletter support and publication of the conference proceedings.

The Executive Council wishes to thank everyone for their enthusiastic support as it looks forward to its Inaugural Convention in June 1986 at Bryn Mawr College.

THE INAUGURAL CONFERENCE

NASIG's Inaugural Conference will be held at Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, on June 22-25, 1986. Founded in 1885, Bryn Mawr is a small residential college located eleven miles west of Philadelphia. It is easily accessible by car via the Pennsylvania or New Jersey Turnpikes, and parking facilities are available at the College. There is fast rail service to Bryn Mawr from Philadelphia's 30th Street Station where Amtrak trains arrive. Local taxi service is available from the Bryn Mawr train station for the two block ride to the College. Limousine service is frequent from Philadelphia International Airport.

Bryn Mawr offers a uniquely picturesque and very pleasant conference site. An English atmosphere prevails on campus. The College architecture is predominantly in the Collegiate Gothic style, and the early campus buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Thomas Library is Oxonian in design. The exterior is of "gray stone in Jacobean Gothic of the period of 1630." The porch is designed after that of Oriel College Chapel in Oxford, and the Great Hall is reminiscent of Wadham College, Oxford. Thomas Library Cloisters are very English in model, feel, and mood.

NASIG has imaginatively planned a series of dinners to be held at campus locations that are pleasant, relaxing, and architecturally interesting. The welcoming dinner will take place al fresco in the Cloisters. On the second evening, dinner will be held at Glenmede, a former country estate, now Bryn Mawr's Graduate Center. NASIG's closing dinner will appropriately take place in Thomas Great Hall. There will be evening entertainment at all three dinners.

Registrants will be housed in the French, German, Italian, and Spanish wings of the Clarissa Donnelley Haffner Hall, Bryn Mawr's European village. Haffner was opened in 1970 as Bryn Mawr's Language House and is air-conditioned. Haffner can accommodate handicapped persons. Additional accommodation will be available in recently renovated Pembroke West, an attractive stone building in the Gothic style. Rooms are modern and some are available with air-conditioning. Both Pembroke West and Haffner offer several rooms ensuite for extra space, if required.

A reception honoring NASIG on its Inaugural Conference will be held in the Rare Book Room of the Miriam Coffin Canaday Library during the Conference proceedings. Canaday's Rare Book Room houses the Marjorie Walter Goodheart

Medieval Library of incunabula and medieval manuscripts. Tours of Canada will be available during the Conference as well as tours to libraries of note in the Philadelphia area such as The Library Company of Philadelphia, the Rosenbach Museum, and the American Philosophical Society founded by Benjamin Franklin.

Bryn Mawr looks forward to welcoming all conference attendees to campus as NASIG inaugurates an interesting and significant serials venture in the United States.

Jane McGarry
Bryn Mawr College Library

Editor's note: Members will be receiving further details concerning the conference in the mail as well as more news in the May 15 issue of THE NASIG NEWSLETTER.

IN SEARCH OF A 1987 CONFERENCE SITE

Tina Feick, John Riddick, and I searched Ohio for a site for the second annual NASIG Conference. Amidst unrelenting rain, we set off on October 14 and 15 to visit about one-half dozen colleges. Each visit started with an interview with the conference director. We then toured the facilities, including meeting rooms, dormitory rooms, kitchens, dining halls and recreation areas. Invariably, John would disappear into the kitchen for long lapses of time. Tina and I imagined that he was conducting a thorough inspection on behalf of the membership, but we were never quite certain. My preoccupation seemed to center around the swimming pools, jogging facilities, and site selection for a reception and open bar. Luckily, Tina proved to be a good judge of meeting rooms and accommodations.

Two colleges proved to be particularly promising as sites for a NASIG conference. Both Oberlin and Denison are small liberal arts colleges located in quaint towns, but near major airports. In northeastern Ohio, Oberlin College borders on the traditional town square. The college excels in its liberal arts and music programs. In central Ohio, Denison University is located on top of a hill overlooking the beautiful town of Granville. Through the autumn mist, the view from the campus was spectacular. The meeting rooms and dormitory facilities were superior.

We feel confident that either college would offer NASIG members a special ambiance for an annual meeting.

George Lupone
Cleveland State University

FROM THE EDITOR

This newsletter will appear irregularly until further notice (please note this fact, serials librarians nationwide!). The next issue will appear on May 15, 1986, having a submission deadline of April 30. The editor would appreciate any and all feedback from the membership as to what you would like to see in THE NASIG NEWSLETTER. Would anyone be interested in writing a column for each issue?; has anything new happened in your library, company, school etc. that you would like to share with us?; serials humor, anyone?

Anyone who is interested in acting as a regional information contact in the West, Midwest, South, and Canada for future issues is asked to contact the editor at (215) 898-2815.

1986 MEMBERSHIP DUES

For your convenience a 1986 membership dues form is attached to this newsletter. NASIG sincerely thanks all who have already responded. If you have already joined but know of someone else who might be interested, pass it on to them!

THE NASIG NEWSLETTER is published for the membership of NASIG (North American Serials Interest Group).
Editor: Lenore Wilkas, Serials Acquisitions Librarian, University of Pennsylvania.
Submissions for the May 15th issue are due April 30 and should be sent to: Lenore Wilkas, Apt. D-2 County Building, 1 Veterans Square, Media, PA 19063.

NASIG wishes to thank the University of Pennsylvania for its cooperation in producing this newsletter.